

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice

Board of Trustees' Meeting

Held at Asta Linder House on December 8, 2015

Call to Order

The Board President, Joel Morrison, called the meeting to order at 9:40 am, followed by a check in time.

The Board Secretary, Bill Dowling, called the roll of voting board members all of whom were present: Joel Morrison, Earl Braumruck, Peter Hurley, Dave Lyons, Bill Dowling, Linda Kabo and Marian Fox.

Nonvoting ex-officio minister Kleber Van Zandt was present.

The President declared that a quorum of voting board members was present, as defined in the bylaws.

Approve of Minutes

The Secretary presented the four board meeting minutes (August, September, October and November), which had not been officially approved:

A motion by Earl to approve the four sets of minutes, as presented, was seconded and carried.

Correspondences & Reports

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

Joel reviewed the reasons for the agenda items.

Treasurer's Report

We had operating Income of \$23,412 and expenses of \$19,509. Income for the month exceeded our expenses. There were no unusual expenses this month.

We ended the month with just under \$10,000 in our checking account and \$13,279 in our operating reserves. Our Endowment Fund was \$167,929.51.

We finally received our rebate check from FPL for \$38,000. It will be deposited into the operating and capital reserve funds to replenish the monies borrowed to cover the solar project cost.

Minister's Report

Linda and I will be hosting a luncheon for the new members and friends who have completed the Passways class.

I officiated at the November 28th wedding of Pam and David Lackey.

We hosted a World AIDS Day "Reading of the Names" ceremony December 1st in our Sanctuary. Clergy and members of several Sarasota and Venice area churches were in attendance.

I have submitted to the Finance Committee a budget item of \$4000 for the next fiscal year to send the DRE, President, Vice President, Minister, and one other lay leader to the Southern Region Leadership Experience which will be held in Florida in January 2017.

I am requesting the board consider asking the congregation to confirm Rev. Jennifer Dant as a Community Minister in covenant with this congregation; and, if approved, it would be an agenda item for the General Congregational Meeting on January 24th.

I have discussed with the Tech Team regarding updating our A/V capability to enhance the education and other events at Waters Hall and Asta Linda House.

The Forum has been suspended temporarily and may resume in February when the seasonal members are present.

I will be requesting clarification from the board on a personnel matter regarding the Sexton pay schedule.

Coordinating Council Report

Earl identified the need for clarity regarding the feedback mechanism for important matters referred by to the board by the council for which the latter wish closure.

Other Report

The Sanctuary solar power project has been successfully concluded.

A FPL grant of \$38,000 and donations from the congregation covered the \$78,500 cost.

The expected savings in electricity cost is \$5000 annually.

The Green Sanctuary Committee will include the project to support its application for UUCOV to be designated a Green Sanctuary congregation, should it decide to submit one.

Unfinished Business

Next Steps Weekend “follow-up”

Joel distributed the stewardship report by the consultant, Mark Ewart.

It was decided that members would review the report and discuss it at an informal meeting on December 12th.

Acceptance of the various recommendations of the report will be decided at the next regular board meeting.

2nd General Meeting planning

The second congregation meeting, scheduled for January 24th was created to allow opportunity for communications that were not possible because of the agenda and time constraints of the Annual Meeting.

The congregation will be asked for agenda suggestions; Joel will arrange for the notice in the Connection and happenings.

The agenda will feature the “Next Steps” report; other agenda items will be explored at the December 12th informal meeting.

The final agenda will be determined at the next regular board meeting.

UUCOV definition of “adult”

Deferred

Progress on A/V problem

Deferred

New Business

Administrative Team Budget FY2017

Joel reviewed the major expenditures of the current year’s \$10,000 budget.

Next year’s budget will see an increase. Expenditures will be for the UUA General Assembly and regional meetings, layperson leadership and stewardship training as well as long range planning.

Joel will prepare the proposed budget for the Finance committee.

Reactivation of “Wish List”

Deferred

Covenantal letter of Agreement

Rev. Khleber presented his proposal for Rev. Jennifer Dant, a candidate for the ministry, to be a community minister in covenant with this congregation. The individual would have a relationship with the congregation, but the focus of her activities would be in the community separate from the congregation. The benefit to the congregation is the expansion of its service to the larger community. The benefit to Rev. Dant is the enhancement of her professional skills and experience in her path to a ministry career. Rev. Khleber recommended that the congregation approve the proposed covenant with the board’s approval.

Dave moved the board proposed to the congregation, at the congregational meeting on January 24th, that Rev. Jennifer Dant be confirmed as a community minister in covenant with this congregation, seconded and approved.

Personnel matter

Rev. Khleber requested clarification on the hours and pay for the sexton and custodian duties performed by Erin Fangboner. The board went into executive session for discussion.

A motion by Dave to authorize payment to Erin for sexton duties at \$12 for two hours weekly and for custodian duties at \$20 for three hours weekly was seconded and carried.

Comments for the Good of the Congregation

Joel noted that there will be four openings on the board for the next church year and they include the positions of president and vice president. A nominating committee is being developed. It is comprised of two individuals elected at the last Annual Meeting and three individuals selected by the board president. He requested that suggestions for members to serve on the committee be sent to him.

Next Scheduled Meeting

January 12, 2016

Adjournment

The President adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.